



Flathead Conservation District
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CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chairman Ronald Buentemeier called the June 6, 2017 Business meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room.

Board members present:

Ronald Buentemeier, Chairman; Pete Woll, Vice Chairman; Dean Sirucek, Secretary/Treasurer; John Ellis, Supervisor; Mark Siderius, Supervisor; Verdell Jackson, Supervisor; Lori Curtis, Supervisor, being a quorum of the Board.

Also in attendance were: Valerie Kurth, Cynthia Ingelfinger and Ginger Kauffman, FCD staff; Bob Flesher, DNRC; Tiffany Martin, Big Sky Watershed Corps; Caitlin Overland, Flathead County Attorney's office; Kathy Olsen, DNRC; Tom Esch; Marcel Quinn; Don Murray; Samantha Tappenbeck, SWCDM; Margosia Jadkowski, Whitefish Legacy Partners; Leo Rosenthal, FWP; Marshall & Judy Hagen.

MINUTES

Mark Siderius made a motion "to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2017 310-Stream permit meeting as presented." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email: June 21, 2017, issue of *The Montana Conservationist* www.swcdmi.org
2. Email: 2018 310 Administrative grant information from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC). Flathead will receive \$3000.

FINANCIAL

The following bills were reviewed:

1. CenturyLink \$262.69
2. David Sibert \$979.00
3. Donald MacIntyre \$325.00
4. MACO \$4803.00
5. MontanaSky Networks \$20.00
6. Ryan Jollymore \$1245.00
7. VISA \$311.82
8. Whitefish Lake Institute \$5000.00

Mark Siderius made a motion "to approve the bills as presented." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



PUBLIC COMMENT: No one was present to comment on items not on the agenda.

EDUCATION GRANTS: Margosia Jadkowski, Whitefish Legacy Partners, presented a request to the board for an education grant in the amount of \$1,114.71. Discussion held. All Education grant funding will be decided at the July business meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

STALOWY/BEAR CREEK DECLARATORY RULING: Bob Flesher, DNRC, reviewed the Declaratory Ruling procedure, findings and reasons for the findings. Discussion held.

Lori Curtis made a motion “to accept the Bear Creek recommendation as submitted to the Flathead Conservation District as stated on page 13 of the recommendation.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously. *John Ellis did not vote.*

Stalowy counsel was informed that deadlines listed in permit FL2016050 must still be met, and a request for an extension of these items could be submitted. Marcel Quinn stated they will move forward with these items.

COST-SHARE: Valerie Kurth reviewed the Hubner cost-share application with the board. Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “to approve the Hubner cost share application FCD2017-001 in the amount of \$540.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Marshall & Judy Hagen presented their cost-share application to the board. Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “to approve the Hagen cost-share application FCD2017-002 in the amount of \$990.45.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion held regarding a rolling deadline for cost-share applications. The board agreed it would be a good idea.

TRUMBULL CREEK CULVERT: Discussion held regarding water backing up on property along Trumbull Creek. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion “to explore the solving of the crossing below the Price property on the Steig property by installing a culvert.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET: The May End of Month report was reviewed with the board. Discussion held. Mark Siderius made a motion “to approve the May End of Month Budget Report.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



REPORTS

NRCS REPORT: No report.

STAFF REPORT: Valerie Kurth and Cynthia Ingelfinger reported:

Cost-Share Program

Current contracts: All of the projects are now complete and the final paperwork has been submitted. Valerie and Cynthia visited the remaining two project sites on June 8th and 9th, and payments were approved at the 310-meeting on June 12th.

Next year: Valerie contacted everyone who has inquired about the program recently to remind them of the application deadline, and she met with a potential program participant on May 25th. Two applications were received for next fiscal year. Valerie and Dean Sirucek visited both project sites on June 22nd, and Valerie is helping the landowners finalize their applications.

District Office and Outreach

1. June advertisements: 310-Dock, 310-Law
2. Valerie continues to facilitate communication among Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Fish Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Don MacIntyre, Caitlin Overland (Flathead County Attorney's Office), and the representatives for the landowner and the complainants in regard to the Stalowy 310.
3. Valerie made reservations for the 2017 Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) convention for interested board and staff.
4. Valerie created new fillable PDF forms for supervisor timesheets and mileage/expenses.
5. Valerie attended a webinar on 310 permitting by Julie Ralston from Bitterroot CD.
6. Valerie participated in the HB223 grant presentations (via phone) on June 5th. FCD's application to support Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp was fully funded (\$4,500).
7. Staff met with Heidi Fleury, from Lake CD, on June 19th to brainstorm ideas for future Area V employee meetings.
8. Valerie participated in a planning meeting for the Montana Watershed Coordination Council Symposium, which will be held in Whitefish in October of 2018.
9. Cynthia met with Pat McGlynn to discuss logistics for the small acreage landowner workshop series. We will be meeting with speakers this summer and finalizing logistics. We have secured the main conference room at the United Way Building for Wednesdays February 7th through March 14, 2018.
10. Cynthia attended two 310 site visits with supervisors.
11. Cynthia attended the Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Easement workshop on June 7th.
12. Cynthia and Valerie met with Joel Brann at the Mountain Trader about advertisement possibilities.
13. Cynthia provided edits for the Lake Book 3rd Edition.
14. Valerie attended the Flathead River Commission meeting on June 19th.



Education and Outreach

CORE – Cynthia attended a Community of Resource Educators (CORE) meeting at Lone Pine State Park on May 24th and a CORE website committee meeting on June 13th.

Rolling Rivers Trailer – Cynthia, Valerie, Pete Woll, and Tiffany Martin did Rolling Rivers Trailer presentations for 5th graders at Hedges Elementary School (~60 students) on June 1st. Presentations are also scheduled for Summit Prep on June 30th and July 11th for a high school class. Cynthia is working with the Kalispell Recreation Department to bring it to their day camp this summer.

Partner events – Cynthia and Valerie helped with the wetlands tour for the Whitefish Lake Institute's (WLI) 5th grade on May 23. Cynthia also ran the Enviroscape station and a Food Web station at the Flathead Lake Biological Station on May 30-31st.

Outreach - Cynthia had several meetings about public outreach and educational opportunities:

- Bailey Minnich and Karin Hilding (City of Whitefish) about stormwater outreach in Whitefish and potentially coordinating a Cow Creek education/restoration project with WLI and FREEFLOW.
- Lori Curtis and Mike Koopal (WLI) about stormwater, water quality and Cow Creek outreach.
- Patrick Jentz, the new stormwater coordinator for the City of Kalispell, about stormwater curriculum and MS4 outreach and education requirements.

River Steward

Valerie attended the River Steward meeting on May 24th and worked with partners on Tiffany Martin's mid-year Big Sky Watershed Corps evaluation. River Steward partners also participated in a bike tour along Ashley Creek with Dick Siderius to review and evaluate future landowner needs and interest.

Staff Training

1. Valerie attended the Agronomy and Range Soil Health Tour in Conrad on June 13-14th. Although it rained heavily on the first day, spirits were high and most of the field visits went on as planned. Local and national speakers presented on soil functions, principles of soil health, cover crops, livestock integration and management, and soil testing. There was also a visit to the Conrad Community Garden, which produces vegetables for the local senior-living facility. Pondera CD recently took over the management of the garden.
2. Cynthia attended the Montana Association of Conservation Districts Employee Organization (MACDEO) Administrator training in Helena June 15-16th. Dan Clark from Montana State University (MSU) Local Government Services presented the first day on Montana Open Meeting Laws and other helpful meeting components. We had an excellent round table of veteran administrators covering records management, outreach and education, 310 paperwork and agency partnering. Kate Arpin presented on social media and websites. Don McIntyre and Bob Flesher presented on Friday about the 310 Law, the latest 310 summary report and new database. There was also a panel of agency representatives discussing other permits – Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) 318 & 401, Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) 404, Floodplain, and FWP 124.



Website

Cynthia posted new blogs about the Ranching for Rivers program/video and the History of CDs and the 310 Law. She also added final bio content to the Staff and Board page and updated the stream permitting pages and the Additional Resources page.

MACD REPORT: Pete Woll reported on the MACD/SWCDM Spring Board meeting. Two ad-hoc committees have been formed - Law & Committees.

FLATHEAD BASIN COMMISSION (FBC) REPORT: Dean Sirucek reported the June 9th meeting agenda included a review and development of long-term organizational goals, future work on aquatic invasive species (AIS), and the AIS Advisory Board - Upper Columbia Conservation Commission. The next meeting is September 27th.

FLATHEAD COUNTY PLANNING BOARD: Dean Sirucek reported the meeting included a zone change on Pine Grove and discussion of the Whitefish south development area.

WHITEFISH CITY PLANNING BOARD: No meeting.

HASKILL BASIN WATERSHED COUNCIL: No meeting. The next meeting is July 12.

FLATHEAD RIVER COMMISSION: Verdell Jackson reported Ray Nickless, National Weather Service, gave an update on basin conditions and flood predictions.

CLARK FORK BASIN COUNCIL: Verdell Jackson reported the June 15th meeting agenda included the Clark Fork & Kootenai River Basins Council Charter, and a draft letter to the Water Policy Interim Committee (WPIC).



MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

- Budget Meeting, Thursday, July 13, 9:00 A.M.
- Area V Meeting, September 26, 2017, Missoula
- MACD Convention, November 14-17, Bozeman
- Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp HB 223 grant agreement, this will be on the 7/10 310-meeting agenda.
- Samantha Tappenbeck, SWCDM, reported on the Montana Conservation Menu and The Ranching for Rivers cost-share program.

The next 310-Stream permit meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 10, 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of the USDA building at 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT.

ADJOURNMENT: Mark Siderius made a motion “to adjourn.” Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Submitted By: Ginger Kauffman, Administrator

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

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|------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <u>7/10/2017</u> | <u>Ronald Buentemeier</u> | <u>Chairman</u> |
| (Date) | (Signature) | (Title - Chairman, Vice-Chairman, etc.) |

